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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8495  
INFO RUEHHM/AMCONSUL HO CHI MINH 5130  
RUCNASE/ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE  
RUEHC/DEPT OF LABOR WASHINGTON DC

UNCLAS HANOI 001084

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EAP/MLS FOR MBROWN AND DRL  
USDOL FOR DUS PONTICELLI AND ZHAO  
USTR FOR BISBEE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ELAB](#) [ETRD](#) [EAID](#) [ECON](#) [VM](#)

SUBJECT: VIETNAM CONFIRMS PARTICIPATION IN 2008 U.S.-VIETNAM LABOR  
DIALOGUE

1. On September 19, 2008, Embassy Hanoi received a letter from Vice Minister Huynh Thi Nhan, of the Vietnam Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA), confirming participation in this year's U.S.-Vietnam Labor Dialogue, tentatively scheduled for October 17, 2008 in Washington, DC.

2. Vice Minister Nhan proposes that the upcoming Dialogue focus on labor relations, collective bargaining and a request for assistance on Labor Code reform. Original text of the letter, in the original translation, follows.

3. BEGIN TEXT OF LETTER:

Hanoi, 16 September 2008

Dear Madame Charlotte Ponticelli,

I would like to thank you for your letter dated 29/8/2008 welcoming the MOLISA Delegation to Washington DC to attend the next session of the Vietnam-U.S. Labor Dialogue.

Regarding the time, we would like to propose October 17, 2008 as the official date of the Dialogue. For the topic of the Dialogue, we would like to suggest focusing on labor relations, experience in building collective bargaining agreements, labor dispute prevention, and resolution practice and mediation models. We would like to discuss possible technical assistance for the revision of the Vietnam Labor Code and technical cooperation in the fields of occupational safety and health and social insurance.

Our International Cooperation Department will keep contact with your staff, as well as the US Embassy in Vietnam, to follow up this event.

We believe with our commitment to strengthen Vietnam-U.S. relations in the labor field, more and more cooperation activities will be opened in the coming time.

I take this opportunity to wish you good health and success.

Yours sincerely,  
Huynh Thi Nhan  
Standing Vice Minister

END TEXT OF LETTER

MICHALAK